



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

THROUGH: Stephanie Hayden-Howard, LMSW, Assistant City Manager

FROM: David Gray, Homeless Strategy Officer DG

DATE: January 5, 2024

SUBJECT: Emergency Shelter Bed Capacity and Navigation Services (Resolution No. 20230608-083)

On June 8, 2023, Council passed [Resolution No. 20230608-083](#), directing the City Manager to review current emergency shelter capacity by population served and geographical location. The resolution also directed staff to review cost scenarios and potential funding sources to increase shelter capacity and navigation services in areas with an identified need.

The Homeless Strategy Office conducted the review and provided a briefing to the Public Health Committee on September 20, 2023.

Specifically, regarding navigation centers, the City of Austin contracts with Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center to administer mobile outreach and housing navigation programs. The City Council allocated \$833,530 in ongoing funding and \$250,000 in one-time funding in Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) for homeless services and digital delivery for navigation services. These funds will be used to enhance the current phone-based program to provide digital bus passes or tele-connect with case managers. Additionally, the funds can be used to add kiosks at other locations such as hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, or temporary shelters. A solicitation for these funds will occur in the second quarter of FY24.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (512) 974-7836 or via email at David.Gray@austintexas.gov.

cc: Jesús Garza, Interim City Manager
Adrienne Sturup, Director, Austin Public Health